IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please replace the Cross Reference to the Related Applications paragraph with the following:

Cross Reference to Related Applications

The present application is related to pending U.S. Patent Application 10/707,978, filed concurrently herewith to Denton et al., entitled "A METHOD FOR SUPPLY CHAIN COMPRESSION"; U.S. Patent Application 10/707,974, filed concurrently herewith to Denton et al., entitled "METHOD FOR PURCHASE ORDER RESCHEDULING IN A LINEAR PROGRAM"; U.S. Patent Application 10/707,977, filed concurrently herewith to Denton et al., entitled "A METHOD FOR SUPPLY CHAIN DECOMPOSITION"; U.S. Patent Application 10/707,972, filed concurrently herewith to Denton et al., entitled "METHOD FOR FAIR SHARING LIMITED RESOURCES BETWEEN MULTIPLE CUSTOMERS"; U.S. Patent Application 10/707,979, filed concurrently herewith to Denton et al., entitled "A METHOD FOR CONSIDERING HIERARCHICAL PREEMPTIVE DEMAND PRIORITIES IN A SUPPLY CHAIN OPTIMIZATION MODEL"; U.S. Patent Application 10/707,973, filed concurrently herewith to Denton et al., entitled " METHOD FOR SIMULTANEOUSLY CONSIDERING CUSTOMER COMMIT DATES AND CUSTOMER REQUEST DATES"; and U.S. Patent Application 10/708,119, filed concurrently herewith to Orzell et al., entitled "METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING PRODUCT ASSETS IN A SUPPLY CHAIN USED TO SATISFY MULTIPLE CUSTOMER DEMANDS". The foregoing

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applications are assigned to the present assignee, and are all incorporated herein by reference.

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